(d) 26 staff were taken up under penal action and in two cases, the matter is under investigation.

[English]

Encroachment of Railway Land

1003. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railway land of more than 2400 hectares worth crores of rupees has been encroached upon in different parts of the country as reported in "The Hindustan Times", New Delhi of August 17,1996;

(b) if so, the details of Railway land under encroachment and area of land unutilised, as on October 31, 1996, zone-wise;

(c) the value of land under encroachment, how and by which date Government propose to get the encroached land vacated;

(d) whether the Government have fixed any responsibility as to how the Railways in each zone allowed such a vast area of land encroached and action taken thereon; and

(e) how the Government propose to utilise the unutilised land under each zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 2457 hectares of Railway land is under encroachment and 24845 hectares is lying unutilised. Zone-wise details are given below :

Zone	Area of land (in hectares)	
	Under encroachment	Unutilised
Central	64	146
Eastern	85	2600
Northern	900	1828
N.E.	115	4560
N.F.	304	2610
Southern	83	2040
S.C.	84	8670
S.E.	715	501
Western	107	1890
Total	2457	24845

(c) Value of land is assessed by the Land Revenue Department of the State Government and varies from place to place. Action against the encroachers of Railway land is taken under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 continuously.

(d) Railway land is mostly encroached in cities. These are poor people who come to cities in search of their livelihood and when they find that they cannot afford a dwelling because of high cost of dwelling in urban areas, they put up jhuggies on the railway land adjacent to railway stations, which is mostly in long strips along railway tracks. Action against these encroachers is taken promptly by the concerned officials. However, they have to act in accordance with the provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971. The problems of removal of encroachments has also an element of law and order as the encroachers get general sympathy, being mostly from the poor sections of the society which enables them to continue on the encroached railway land despite sincere efforts of the Railways. Still, strict instructions have been reiterated to railway officials to prevent encroachment on railway land and remove encroachment.

(e) Unutilised land is kept reserved by the railways for locating their operational and service infrastructure and to meet future development requirements.

Demands by Coolies

1004. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a representation regarding the demands was handed over to Railway Minister on his visit to Kanpur in September, 1996 by the authorised coolies of Kanpur Central Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon;

(d) whether the Government are also aware of a large number of unauthorised coolies and their mode of working at Kanpur Railway Station; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Demands made in the representation of railway coolie unions are as under :

(i) Immediate transfer of badges to the dependants/successors of deceased coolies.

(ii) Powers of transfer of badges should be delegated to Station Manager, Kanpur.

(iii) Posting of a railway official for dealing with the matters of coolies exclusively.

(iv) Collies should be declared as Class-IV employee with all the facilities of a railway employee.

(v) The work of parcel/goods handling should be entrusted to the coolies.

(vi) Grant of medical and education facilities and also issue of proper uniform and railway passes to the coolies.

(vii) All the facilities available to the coolies should be displayed on the Notice Boards at the station and should also be advised to the unions.

(c) The licensed porters are appointed on the recommendation of a Selection Board constituted for the purpose. Since the coolies are not railway employees, they are not entitled to the facilities given to the railway employees. However, licensed porters, their spouses and dependent children can avail of the medical facilities in the railway hospitals and the health units. Two red shirts are supplied tc them every year as uniform. In addition, it has also been decided to supply one set of winter uniform to them. 75% concession is allowed to them for travel by rail. Badges of coolies are transferred to the dependants/successors by the competent authority subject to fulfilment of certain terms and conditions and it is not possible to delegate these powers to Station Manager, Kanpur. Since the Lincensed Porters are meant for carrying of luggage of the passengers, they are not normally utilised for handling of parcels/goods at the station. Adequate arrangements exist for managing matters relating to Lincensed Porters at Kanpur Station.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Coverage of Doordarshan in States

1005. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of population covered by Doordarshan in each State;

(b) whether there is any proposal to provide cent percent coverage in all the States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). Whereas the satellite derived service of Doordarshan is available to both 100% population as well as area of the country with the help of an appropriate dish antenna system, terrestrial transmission is also available to an estimated 85.8% population of the country as per the Statewise details given in the Statement enclosed. With a view to provide terrestrial TV service to the population living in hitherto uncovered areas, 476 TV transmitters of varying power are presently under implementation/envisaged to be set up in the country, depending on availability of resources and other infrastructural facilities required for the purpose. On commissioning of these projects, terrestrial TV service is expected to be available to an estimated 92.8% population of the country.

STATEMENT

Population-wise TV Coverage in States/Union Territories (As on 21.11.1996)

S.No.	State/U.T.	Present coverage (%age of population)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	81.9
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	44.4
3.	Assam	82.0
4.	Bihar	93.0
5.	Delhi	99.9
6.	Goa	99.9
7.	Gujarat	80.5
8.	Haryana	98.5
9.	Himachal Pradesh	64.5
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	91.7
11.	Karnataka	69.9
12.	Kerala	87.0
13.	Madhya Pradesh	70.9
14.	Maharashtra	85.2
15.	Manipur	66.4
16.	Meghalaya	97.2
17.	Mizoram	72.3
18.	Nagaland	47.2
19.	Orissa	82.0
20.	Punjab	99.9
21.	Rajasthan	64.4
22.	Sikkim	95.0
23.	Tamilnadu	91.3
24.	Tripura	93.3
25.	Uttar Pradesh	92.4
26.	West Bengal	96.0
27.	A and N Islands	99.0
28.	Chandigarh	99.9
29.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	43.6
30.	Daman and Diu	99.9
31.	L' Dweep Islands	99.0
32.	Pondicherry	99.9
	National Average	85.8

Closing Down Siemens Factories

1006. SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Will the Minist of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that th Siemens proposes to shut down its two factories